



NEWS RELEASE
United States Air Force
Air Force Materiel Command

Directorate of Public Affairs, Arnold Engineering Development Center
100 Kindel Drive, Arnold AFB, TN 37389-2213 (931) 454-4204
<http://www.arnold.af.mil>

AMERICA'S AIR & SPACE ADVANTAGE

Writer: Msgt. Bob Pullen
Release: 2005-476
Photo: d0512390

Date: Dec. 9, 2005

Trojan Horsemen to headline Arnold Air Force Base 55th Anniversary Wings of Freedom Air Show

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, TENN – The Arnold Air Force Base 55th Anniversary Wings of Freedom Air Show is pleased to announce the Trojan Horsemen T-28 Warbird Aerobatic Team as the featured performer for the Memorial Day weekend event May 27-28, 2006, at the Tullahoma Regional Airport. Admission to the air show is free.

The Trojan Horsemen team is the only six-ship T-28 war bird formation and aerobatic demo team in the U.S.

"The Trojan Horsemen" name was derived from the teams' North American T-28 Trojan aircraft and the Trojan Horse from Greek mythology used to conquer Troy.

The team's repertoire includes both four-ship and six-ship formation demonstrations with aerobatics by the two solo pilots choreographed to patriotic music.

The routine is a patriotic tribute to the United States Armed Forces and includes a missing man formation. The aircraft sport authentic U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy paint schemes and markings to complement the patriotic theme. The 12-member team consists of former military fighter pilots, instructors, airline pilots and experienced civilian air show pilots with more than 200 years combined experience.

"I'm thrilled that we will have the up close and personal opportunity to see and hear a flight of six planes fill the sky," said Murray King, air show director.

"These guys put on a thrilling and very patriotic air show, and it has been my distinct pleasure to get to know and work with them."

Following WWII, the U.S. Air Force called upon North American Aircraft (NAA) to develop the next generation of high-performance advanced trainer as a successor to the T-6/ SNJ Texan.

North American earned this distinction by producing legendary aircraft such as the T-6 Texan, P-51 Mustang, B-25 Mitchell and later the F-86 Sabre and F-100 Super Sabre. The result was the T-28 Trojan series, the most advanced propeller-driven military aircraft ever produced.

King has first-hand knowledge of the T-28, its capabilities, and what it will add to the air show.

“As an ex-Naval aviator, I spent quite a few hours in the T-28 during the early days of my flying career,” King said. “I still remember what a delight it was to fly that airplane, and what a unique sound that 1,425 horsepower Wright radial engine had, and that was only a flight of two at most.”

History of the T-28

The A model, with an 800 horsepower engine, was used by the U.S. Air Force from 1950 to 1956 as a trainer and various other roles, and it replaced the P-51 Mustang fighter in reserve units.

In 1952, the U.S. Navy contracted with NAA to build a B model version with a 1425 horsepower engine and other improvements. In addition to the B model, the T-28C model, equipped with a tail hook and smaller diameter prop, was also built for the Navy for carrier landings.

In 1959, several hundred A models were shipped to France to be modified with the larger R-1820 engine and armament to be used in combat in Algeria. These aircraft were designated as T-28F or Fennec.

The U.S. also modified A, B and C models into the T-28D to be used in combat in Southeast Asia in the 60s and 70s, including Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Along with the A-1 Skyraider, the AT-28 was used extensively for ground attack and close air support. Ordinance included two 50-caliber machine guns, fragmentation bombs and rockets.

The T-28 has a top speed of 343 knots and cruises at speeds from 180-250 knots.

The solo pilots reach speeds of 250-300 knots during the air show routine. Max weight for the C model is 9,000 lbs and the service ceiling is 37,000 ft. It has a climb rate of more

than 3,000 feet-per-minute and can out-turn and out-climb a P-51 Mustang.

The air show is being presented by Arnold Air Force Base and the Tennessee Regional Air Show Coalition, made up of chambers of commerce from Manchester and Tullahoma.

For more information about the upcoming air show, visit the air show Web site at:

www.wingsoffreedomairshow.net or contact Arnold Air Force Base Public Affairs at (931) 454-4204, the Tullahoma Area Chamber of Commerce at (931) 455-5497 or the Manchester Area Chamber of Commerce at (931) 728-7635.

Editorial Note:

Arnold Engineering Development Center is the nation's largest complex of flight simulation test facilities. The center was dedicated in June 1951 by President Harry Truman and named after 5-star General of the Air Force Henry 'Hap' Arnold, visionary leader of the Army Air Forces in World War II and the only airman to hold 5-Star rank. Today, this \$7.8 billion complex has some 58 aerospace test facilities located at Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn., and the center's remote operating location Hypervelocity Tunnel 9 in White Oak, Md. The test facilities simulate flight from subsonic to hypersonic speeds at altitudes from sea level to space. Virtually every high performance flight system in use by the Department of Defense today and all NASA manned spacecraft have been tested in AEDC's facilities. Today the center is testing the next generation of aircraft and space systems. For more information on AEDC visit the center's Web site at www.arnold.af.mil



Photo caption for d0512390: The Trojan Horsemen T-28 Warbird Aerobatic Team will be the featured act for the Wings of Freedom Air Show in Tullahoma Memorial Day weekend 2006. The Trojan Horsemen team is the only six-ship T-28 war bird formation and aerobatic demo team in the U.S. For more information on the air show, log onto www.wingsoffreedomairshow.net. (Photo provided)

-AEDC-

PAGE THREE OF THREE